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United States Department of the Interior, J. A. Krug, Secretary  
Fish and Wildlife Service, Albert M. Day, Director

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Wildlife Leaflet 315

Washington 25, D. C.

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November 1948

ANNUAL FUR CATCH OF THE UNITED STATES

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Fur is perhaps the oldest international commodity produced by wild animals. It is also an important part of our agricultural development and our natural wealth. For more than 300 years the quest for furs in North America has pushed forward from one side of the Continent to the other. Untold wealth has come to peoples and nations from this great natural resource, and since the supply has always appeared to be abundant, little thought has been given to that day when nature would show signs of exhaustion.

Although the stocks of wild fur animals in the United States have been greatly depleted, they are still quite large. The more common fur animals are not in immediate danger of extinction, but the finer fur animals have been reduced so low that commercial quantities are negligible and some species are in danger of extinction. Nevertheless, furs are taken in all the States and in the Territory of Alaska. Even in the outskirts of such cities as New York, Chicago, and St. Louis some fur is taken.

During the past five or ten years the estimated annual catch of fur animals in the United States has been exceedingly large. The muskrat take ranges from 18,000,000 to 20,000,000 pelts; the opossum, 2,500,000 to 3,000,000; the skunk, 2,000,000 to 2,500,000; raccoon, 1,000,000 to 1,500,000; fox, 900,000 to 1,000,000; mink, 700,000 to 800,000, and so on. The data suggest that domestic production of raw fur at the present time is at least 25,000,000 to 30,000,000 fur animal skins per year. After the domestic crop of raw furs and those imported for 1947 were processed, manufactured into fur garments and sold, the turnover was \$425,600,000.

Everyone generally agrees that the supply of wild fur has decreased greatly since 1910. The shrinkage is estimated at 20 to 50 percent during the past 10 or 15 years. A review of fur sales recently held in the United States shows that the pelts disposed of were brought from all parts of the world to supply the American trade. Manufactured furs cost much more now than the same grade of furs did 10 or 15 years ago. All this indicated that the demand for fur is far greater than ever before. Evidently the time is overdue when steps should be taken to increase and improve the fur supply. Trappers, dealers, manufacturers, and wearers, possessing in the aggregate a tremendous moral and financial influence, want more and better furs.

It should be understood that the natural and ordinary food of fur animals consists mainly of materials for which man has little or no use, and that certain of these animals render the farmer a positive service by ridding his orchards, field and pastures of some of the worst pests infesting them. Generally speaking, therefore, the project to increase and improve fur animals would result in turning useless or harmful organisms into valuable peltries. It would also enable the farmer, when the regular duties of his farm are at their lowest ebb, to reap a self-raised harvest of fur which has cost him nothing and which probably has been developed in his service.

The Fish and Wildlife Service thanks the State game and conservation commissions for their assistance in supplying data included in this report.

# ALABAMA

Alabama does not require reports from trappers on the number and kinds of fur animals taken or from fur dealers on the number and kinds of furs handled, and therefore, could not furnish information on the fur catch. Trappers are required to purchase and attach metal tags to all furs before putting them on the market. Opossum, skunk, muskrat, and weasel required 2¢ tags, reccoon and mink required 15¢ tags, and fox and otter required \$1.00 tags. During the 1945-46 season, 3,277 fur catcher's licenses were sold for \$2.50 each; 43,344 tags at 2¢ each; 43,272 tags at 15¢ each; and 740 tags at \$1.00 each. During the 1946-47 season, 3,895 fur catcher's licenses were sold for \$2.50 each; 40,235 tags at 2¢ each; 37,374 tags at 15¢ each; and 861 tags at \$1.00 each. During the 1947-48 season, 2,751 fur catcher's licenses were sold at \$2.50 each; 34,427 tags at 2¢ each; 36,854 tags at 15¢ each; and 744 tags at \$1.00 each.

# ALASKA

(Not including the Pribilof Islands)

Species	1941 <sup>1/</sup>	1942 <sup>1/</sup>	1943 <sup>1/</sup>	1944 <sup>1/</sup>	1945 <sup>1/</sup>	1946 <sup>1/</sup>	1947 <sup>1/</sup>
Bear:							
Black & glacier	70	81	133	160	92	98	141
Polar.....	33	42	100	71	82	152	68
Beaver.....	20,606	12,071	15,146	8,516	9,553	18,929	27,349
Coyote.....	1,208	460	376	797	474	389	900
Fox 2/:							
Red.....	12,574	12,537	4,916	6,916	7,605	4,754	3,071
Cross.....	1,484	1,468	1,240	1,831	1,614	1,096	785
Silver.....	466	428	262	406	644	2,335	3,918
White.....	6,515	2,154	4,800	4,552	3,652	1,364*	1,868
Blue.....	6,483	4,693	1,783	1,101	1,190	1,443*	929
Hare.....	60	110	195	700	337	578	132
Lynx.....	781	639	713	990	922	601	883
Marmot.....	154	40	201	20	...	829	21
Marten.....	707	240	3,182	13,352	453	2,670	13,172
Mink.....	31,782	53,060	33,705	61,038	31,339	64,837	42,772
Muskrat.....	511,805	267,356	212,352	142,530	152,542	137,656	182,969
Otter.....	2,188	2,821	1,547	2,772	1,721	5,364	2,609
Squirrel.....	1,760	980	1,122	1,850	4,582	1,120	2,990
Weasel.....	8,580	11,280	3,892	5,508	5,967	6,629	4,815
Wolf.....	599	464	351	418	290	286	490
Wolverine.....	232	161	92	87	108	157	157
Total	608,087	371,085	291,108	253,615	223,173	246,333	290,039

<sup>1/</sup> Calendar year.

<sup>2/</sup> Six black foxes shipped 1945, included in total.

\* This does not include pelts shipped from Pribilof Islands.



Pribilof Islands

Species	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Fox:						
White.....	5	..	..	11	13	20
Blue.....	829	..	..	616	1,283	1,155
Seal 1/.....	150	117,164	47,652	76,964	..	..
Total	984	117,164	47,652	77,591	1,296	1,175

1/ Calendar year.

ARIZONA

Species	1939 <sup>1/</sup>	1940 <sup>1/</sup>	1943 <sup>1/</sup>	1944 <sup>1/</sup>	1947 <sup>1/</sup>	1948 <sup>2/</sup>
Badger.....	21	35	9	80	41	..
Beaver.....	..	..	..	368	177	219
Bobcat.....	114	149	32	178	356	..
Coyote.....	314	500	145	326	5,340	..
Fox:					415	..
Gray.....	..	..	210	247	..	..
Kit or swift.....	..	..	16	17	..	..
All species.....	464	600	..	..	..	..
Muskrat.....	216	315	1,053	189	..	..
Raccoon.....	47	40	44	19	14	..
Ringtail cat.....	215	196	24	14	2	..
Skunk:						
Common large.....	107	137	54	184	147	..
Spotted.....	79	12	..	7	..	..
Wolf.....	2	11	180	12	3	..
Miscellaneous.....	..	27	98	132	..	..
Total	1,579	2,022	1,865	1,773	6,495	219

1/ Calendar year.

2/ Calendar year - Not Complete.

The trapper's license was abolished in Arizona for several years. At present, however, separate hunting and trapping licenses are issued, and reports of the annual catch are required. The above figures represent the catch reported, but according to the State they should be multiplied by ten to give the approximate total catch. The above total does not include animals caught by the Fish and Wildlife Service.

ARKANSAS

Species	1942 <sup>1/</sup>	1943 <sup>1/</sup>	1944 <sup>1/</sup>	1945 <sup>1/</sup>	1946 <sup>1/</sup>	1947-48
Bobcat.....	573	299	194	92	96	89
Fox:						
Gray.....	15,270	15,585	11,811	4,282	5,342	4,141
Red.....	274	1,112	777	563	504	591
Mink.....	24,429	18,417	14,469	13,976	33,174	36,095
Muskrat.....	3,072	3,998	3,552	2,683	4,618	5,314
Opossum.....	430,980	341,571	169,808	122,593	161,140	87,829
Raccoon.....	66,429	51,398	48,011	42,205	75,295	66,031
Skunk:						
Common large.....	54,706	38,596	19,983	11,281	17,039	7,958
Spotted.....	1,444	1,830	1,062	801	945	751
Weasel.....	432	515	259	220	215	205
Wolf.....	34	11	17	14	6	7
Miscellaneous.....	65	8	..	2	..	..
Total	597,708	473,340	269,943	198,712	298,374	209,011

<sup>1/</sup> Fiscal year.

The State law requires fur buyers to report at the end of each season the number and kind of furs purchased and the prices paid for them.

CALIFORNIA

Species	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48
Badger.....	135	84	57	74	32
Bobcat.....	2,898	2,063	1,730	1,072	689
Cat:					
House.....	167	145	120	305	302
Ringtail.....	693	719	1,213	710	399
Coyote.....	4,186	3,590	2,310	2,341	1,248
Fisher.....	1	1	..	..	..
Fox:					
Gray.....	3,555	3,117	2,657	1,585	748
Red or cross.....	8	6	9	14	19
Swift.....	78	59	132	74	6
Marten.....	165	198	338	395	213
Mink.....	2,105	2,325	3,151	2,996	2,283
Muskrat.....	57,331	56,425	49,800	32,771	41,746
Opossum.....	794	433	498	361	274
Otter (river).....	58	55	79	122	116
Raccoon.....	7,106	6,567	6,756	5,042	2,429
Skunk:					
Spotted.....	637	524	627	635	241
Striped.....	10,457	7,176	4,518	2,650	783
Weasel.....	48	65	167	236	162
Total	90,421	83,552	74,162	51,381	51,690

COLORADO

Species	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48
Badger.....	918	394	402	163	73
Bobcat.....	1,146	1,019	833	348	137
Civet Cat.....	661	393	507	200	29
Coyote.....	10,368	8,968	5,831	1,259	491
Fox.....	356	324	253	87	43
Marten.....	..	125	..	873	58*
Mink.....	1,010	614	618	439	302
Muskrat.....	175,355	114,860	277,842	71,452	106,077
Raccoon.....	..	83	157	113	63
Ringtail Cat.....	7	19	29	19	12
Skunk.....	13,897	6,179	5,517	2,471	648
Weasel.....	1,485	623	950	688	1,100
Total	205,203	131,601	292,938	78,112	108,975

\* Hold overs on permits, Season Closed 1947-48.

CONNECTICUT

Species	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946 <sup>1/</sup>	
Bobcat.....	93	47	45	55	26	
Fox, all species.....	7,014	7,500	8,124	6,240	8,505	
Mink.....	920	1,208	1,171	1,057	1,480	
Muskrat.....	25,105	25,019	22,156	27,596	39,054	
Otter.....	198	47	64	84	57	
Raccoon.....	4,496	4,473	4,765	4,252	5,636	
Skunk.....	7,715	5,897	5,395	2,716	4,140	
Squirrel.....	81,519	46,720	69,691	50,487	86,196	
Weasel.....	690	702	624	279	413	
Total	127,750	91,613	112,035	92,766	145,507	

<sup>1/</sup> Calendar year.

The State Board of Fisheries and Games advises that the above figures represent only those furs reported which is estimated to be between 40% and 50% of the actual catch. Figures for 1945 represent 40%, and 1946 32% of licensees reported.

DELAWARE

Species	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48
Muskrat.....	40,178	42,150	42,100	42,000	41,000
Raccoon.....	1,015	965	900	925	1,143
Total	41,193	43,115	43,000	42,925	42,143

These figures are reported on licenses but many fail to report, so above is not accurate.



FLORIDA

Species	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947-48
Opossum.....	2,753	3,048	487	4,310	848	1,004	8,339
Otter.....	506	816	609	271	192	379	375
Raccoon .....	34,919	46,304	40,984	20,692	13,222	12,858	9,425
Skunk.....	1,240	1,307	1,807	1,042	213	374	2,223
Total	39,418	51,475	43,887	26,315	14,475	14,615	20,362

GEORGIA

Species	1937	1938	1945-46	1947-48
Bear.....	1	1	100	5
Bobcat.....	16	36	574	499
Fox:				
Red.....	137	103	784	915
Gray.....	569	427	9,664	10,182
Mink.....	2,381	1,786	6,560	4,515
Muskrat.....	1,130	848	29,748	30,177
Opossum.....	4,792	3,594	40,008	35,715
Otter.....	202	152	(1/)	(1/)
Raccoon.....	15,648	11,736	26,243	35,502
Ringtail cat.....	5	2	..	..
Skunk				
Common large.....	984	752	2,701	1,519
Spotted.....	23	17	...	7
Weasel.....	56	42	522	213
Miscellaneous.....	..	4	533	404
Total	25,944	19,500	117,437	119,653

1/ No open season.

Georgia does not require trappers to make an annual report on furs taken. The above information, however, was furnished by the State Department of Natural Resources and the State Game and Fish Commission.

Species	1941	1942	1944	1945	1946	1947-48 <sup>4/</sup>
Badger.....	..	..	1,000	..	..	1
Bear.....	..	..	120	17	22	400
Beaver <sup>1/</sup> .....	4,838	2,589	7,000	8,000	6,000	6,558
Bobcat.....	..	..	1,190 <sup>2/</sup>	700	800	..
Canada lynx.....	..	..	..	8	11	9
Coyote.....	..	..	15,850	6,000	8,293	129
Fox <sup>3/</sup> .....	1	6	..	..	24	3
Marten.....	..	40	..	..	..	4
Mink.....	5	54	3,650	..	4,157	601
Mountain lion.....	..	..	35	74	189	120
Muskrat .....	89	225	146,000	..	119,940	61,147
Otter.....	1	1	..	..	21	5
Raccoon.....	..	8	110	..	204	13
Skunk, common large...	..	..	1,120	..	..	..
Weasel .....	..	..	..	..	..	1
Total	4,934	2,923	176,075	14,799	139,661	68,991

<sup>1/</sup> In 1943, 6,645 beavers were taken.

<sup>2/</sup> Includes lynx.

<sup>3/</sup> Includes gray, red silver and cross.

<sup>4/</sup> 1947-48 season.

## ILLINOIS

Species	1936	1937	1938	1939	1941	1942	1947-48 <sup>1/</sup>
Fox, red & gray.....	3,926	10,292	10,760	7,145	6,232	16,636	30,842
Mink.....	21,593	33,239	48,581	42,254	18,880	19,362	60,345
Muskrat.....	323,895	413,823	729,077	664,831	307,179	249,100	730,476
Opossum.....	25,519	97,755	132,585	171,590	61,897	94,774	121,202
Raccoon.....	6,281	26,734	30,732	34,577	20,245	24,130	96,936
Skunk, common lge....	30,426	47,338	45,263	36,681	21,103	22,580	18,373
Weasel.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,384
Total	411,640	629,181	996,998	957,078	435,536	426,582	1,061,558

<sup>1/</sup> 1947-48 season.

No reports on the Annual Fur Catch for Illinois are available for 1943-46.

## INDIANA

Species	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Badger.....	61	172	222	103	259	7
Fox, red and gray.....	24,626	34,542	10,140	9,748	69,902	7,024
Mink.....	15,169	24,088	13,714	12,745	41,481	15,416
Muskrat.....	297,789	540,562	292,077	285,289	530,618	207,725
Opossum.....	238,517	249,505	61,005	57,119	209,436	36,498
Raccoon.....	78,026	113,652	29,257	42,400	169,060	40,967
Skunk, common large.....	33,511	37,879	11,882	11,645	20,467	4,114
Weasel.....	5,407	10,447	168		7,518	314
Total	693,100	1,010,847	418,465	419,049	1,069,641	312,065

The State law requires only licensed fur buyers to report annually on the furs purchased.

## IOWA

Species	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48
Badger.....	538	254	314	553	210
Beaver.....	235	247	623	494	210
Fox:					
Red.....	8,695	9,559	11,554	12,259	8,963
Gray.....	2,516	2,226	2,350	2,223	2,009
Mink.....	52,760	46,825	48,145	60,397	27,638
Muskrat.....	722,360	452,275	418,417	387,614	17,059
Opossum.....	35,579	27,293	22,501	26,960	15,846
Raccoon.....	38,303	36,558	41,084	61,880	55,601
Skunk:					
Common large.....	53,199	35,489	30,755	32,458	11,903
Spotted.....	60,238	41,005	44,827	40,661	13,944
Weasel.....	3,966	2,830	3,607	4,334	1,714
Wolf.....	926	381	388	915	259
Total	979,315	655,042	624,565	630,748	155,356

The State law requires fur buyers to report the total number of furs purchased. Individual trappers need not report their annual catch except where furs are sold outside the State.

# KANSAS

Species	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947-48
Badger.....	538	1,152	938	653	589	528
Beaver.....	292	350	246	218	205	237
Bobcat.....	..	..	..	..	..	98
Coyote.....	16,758	22,953	23,987	26,853	19,263	2,716
Fox (all species).....	1,574	1,792	1,252	971	738	1,341
Mink.....	1,239	1,618	1,581	852	590	13,724
Muskrat.....	116,758	121,256	116,297	119,387	103,209	104,537
Opossum.....	133,652	147,852	118,314	98,645	74,000	124,042
Raccoon.....	11,215	16,774	15,666	16,899	13,224	44,259
Skunk:						
Common large.....	149,888	151,758	(175,515	(171,807	(158,742	(189,303
Spotted.....	45,322	48,337	(	(	(	(
Weasel.....	..	..	..	..	..	225
Wolf.....	1,153	1,558	..	..	..	338
Total	478,389	515,400	453,596	436,285	372,560	481,348

Kansas does not require trappers to make annual report of furs taken. The figures were obtained from reports made by fur dealers.

# KENTUCKY

Kentucky has no available information on the number of fur animals taken annually, as the State law does not require trappers to make an annual report.



## LOUISIANA

Species	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48
Fox.....	8,534	5,124	3,823	2,645	2,528
Mink.....	144,582	132,821	168,598	153,027	153,061
Muskrat.....	4,743,790	5,963,156	8,337,411	8,029,764	5,895,459
Nutria.....	436	902	8,784	18,015	28,173
Opossum.....	91,033	66,000	90,433	77,264	31,744
Otter.....	2,404	1,912	2,367	2,832	5,078
Raccoon.....	208,010	176,911	244,502	186,750	126,933
Skunk.....	28,037	11,155	12,224	4,830	1,415
Cat.....	918	628	1,430	383	69
Miscellaneous.....	1,146	86	37	53	679
Total	5,228,890	6,358,695	8,869,609	8,475,563	6,245,139

The State law requires fur dealers to submit three monthly reports during the trapping season on the number of fur animals purchased and to pay a severance tax on each pelt shipped out of the State.

Trappers are permitted to ship their own take out of the State and pay tax on same.

All fur shipments must be tagged with tags that are furnished by the Fur and Refuge Division of the Department of Wild Life and Fisheries.

## MAINE

Species	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947-48
Bear.....	58	19	912	57	91	89
Beaver.....	2,583	5,683	2,192	4,656	2,921	1,608
Bobcat.....	133	105	184	1,044	181	178
Fox, red.....	4,502	6,144	6,491	7,812	3,571	1,395
Mink.....	1,726	1,600	2,580	1,159	3,226	1,650
Muskrat.....	17,552	13,532	20,079	12,020	28,594	24,851
Otter.....	129	89	120	121	199	107
Raccoon.....	715	1,579	1,387	3,474	2,830	890
Skunk, common large..	2,571	1,968	2,694	13,548	1,875	614
Weasel.....	691	958	978	1,479	1,141	656
Total	30,661	31,544	37,617	45,370	44,629	32,038

The State law requires trappers to report the annual catch and fur buyers the numbers of furs purchased.

# MARYLAND

Maryland is in the process of revising its fur laws, although, at present, there is no annual report required from trappers and/or fur dealers on the number of furs taken or sold.

The following is an estimate made by the Director, Maryland Game and Inland Fish Commission, for the muskrat trapping seasons of: 1938-1939, 2,000,000; 1939-1940, 1,750,000; 1940-1941, 1,500,000; 1941-1942, 1,500,000; 1942-1943, 1,000,000; 1943-1944, 800,000; 1944-1945, 800,000; 1945-1946, 900,000; 1946-1947, 575,000; and 1947-1948, 500,000 or less.

# MASSACHUSETTS

Species	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946
Bobcat.....	266	86	108	39	45	110	139
Canada lynx.....	28	2	..	..	..	..	..
Fox:							
Red.....	5,061	5,277	3,505	4,896	4,751	4,417	4,256
Gray.....	853	979	670	637	790	648	628
Mink.....	1,404	1,460	562	1,093	1,356	1,283	2,152
Muskrat.....	41,874	44,086	22,981	23,114	31,659	50,147	67,799
Otter.....	128	107	78	80	88	127	184
Raccoon.....	2,064	2,335	1,273	1,547	1,880	2,202	2,469
Skunk, common							
large.....	7,901	10,070	4,733	6,034	5,642	4,502	4,680
Weasel.....	626	517	304	396	464	269	61
Total	60,205	62,081	34,214	37,842	46,675	63,705	82,368

Department of conservation advises that the system of receiving and recording information makes them two years behind in their statistics, therefore, no further information was available at time "Annual Fur Catch" was prepared.

MICHIGAN

Species	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48
Badger.....	1,519	2,169	1,781	1,234	975
Beaver.....	6,590	**2,703	15,296	9,859	*closed
Bobcat.....	2,538	2,802	2,910	2,363	2,174
Coyote.....	2,110	3,736	3,422	3,953	3,459
Mink.....	37,861	52,489	53,400	42,979	26,700
Muskrat.....	995,443	663,322	548,841	582,427	366,750
Opossum.....	51,993	59,271	34,903	50,646	30,760
Otter.....	154	160	349	322	*closed
Raccoon.....	71,859	70,120	88,700	87,007	64,430
Red Fox.....	22,450	33,640	52,017	39,652	38,720
Skunk.....	31,722	27,673	25,278	22,642	12,202
Weasel.....	34,342	24,925	48,501	32,089	21,308
Wolf.....	166	80	61	45	105
Total	1,258,747	943,090	875,459	875,218	567,583

\* Spring '47 Closed.

\*\* Lower Peninsula Only.

1,080 beaver and 103 otter taken - lower peninsula - 1948-49 season.

MINNESOTA

Species	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Badger.....	1(1/)	1,211	1,969	2,511	2,870	711
Beaver.....	4,259	10,385	1,302	9,477 <sup>3/</sup>	8,235 <sup>5/</sup>	4,112
Bobcat.....	231	450	1,880	3,085	2,010	1,294
Canada lynx.....	55	33	20	56	57	64
Coyote.....	660	653	2,336	1,961	8,777	1,622
Fox:						
Gray.....	1,619	2,590	6,269	5,467	9,383	4,785
Red, cross, silver	5,903	11,178	17,542	17,751	29,023	18,057
Mink.....	34,615	50,375	79,220	95,782	110,850	43,239
Muskrat.....	1,449,760	1,957,217	22,393 <sup>2/</sup>	1,211,106	1,432,612	404,310
Opossum.....	..	59	117	278	808	133
Otter.....	..	..	..	46	..	..
Raccoon.....	5,237	8,063	10,396	20,140 <sup>4/</sup>	32,293	15,572
Skunk:						
Common large.....	60,968	81,674	86,530	82,860	111,306	20,094
Spotted.....	6,566	10,267	18,185	15,107	19,446	2,703
Squirrel.....	9,880	..	3,959	7,667 <sup>4/</sup>	29,959	10,064
Weasel.....	87,878	50,303	47,680	85,125	147,488	34,994
Wolf.....	163	128	349	413	978	491
Total	1,667,794	2,184,586	300,147	1,558,832	1,946,595	562,245

<sup>1/</sup> No open season.

<sup>2/</sup> Trapping allowed by permit only.

<sup>3/</sup> Includes 1,666 taken under permit.

<sup>4/</sup> Does not include hunting take.

<sup>5/</sup> Includes 1495 taken under permit.



# MISSISSIPPI

Species	1939	1942-43	1943-44	1946-47	1947-48
Beavers.....	..	..	..	74	248
Bobcat.....	92	1,274	..	33	..
Fox:					
Gray.....	..	..	1,120	2,011	923
Red .....	..	..	682	479	310
Mink.....	8,652	38,240	38,783	27,684	34,720
Muskrat.....	6,680	6,818	52,122	56,844	32,200
Opossum.....	22,008	47,023	93,556	32,916	10,998
Otter.....	..	..	..	..	80
Raccoon.....	11,284	38,240	46,327	34,362	32,520
Skunk:					
Common large.....	3,196	5,538	20,624	2,960	1,651
Spotted.....	124	..	10,320	484	177
Weasel.....	192	..	1,172	258	260
Total	52,228	135,859	265,980	158,105	114,087

The State law does not require trappers to submit an annual report of their catch. Mississippi does, however, distribute cards to the trappers through the wardens when the licenses are issued. No data was made available by the State between 1939 and 1942.

# MISSOURI

Species	1942-43	1943-44 <sup>1/</sup>	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48
Fox:					
Red.....	10,191	14,674	10,743	13,043	9,381
Gray.....	6,686	11,648	7,903	7,640	4,218
Mink.....	6,926	10,436	14,144	22,658	18,539
Muskrat.....	109,969	182,846	212,269	217,847	110,125
Opossum.....	359,605	319,827	268,956	336,643	161,224
Raccoon.....	14,547	27,598	53,347	77,567	69,206
Skunk:					
Common large.....	70,760	60,236	43,015	43,196	19,166
Spotted.....	22,339	19,120	13,078	13,073	5,805
Weasel.....	1,210	1,464	997	1,186	696
Total	602,233	647,849	624,452	732,849	398,679 <sup>2/</sup>

<sup>1/</sup> 1943-44 is tentative.

<sup>2/</sup> Includes 214 coyote, 50 bobcat and 55 beaver.

Until 6 years ago Missouri did not require either trappers or fur traders to submit annual reports on furs; but the State law now requires reports of fur traders, and the above data was obtained from such reports.



## MONTANA

Species	1940	1941	1942	1944	1945	1946-47	1947-48
Beaver <u>1/</u> .....	12,752	17,717	11,161	11,855	16,468	10,583	8,472
Coyote.....	7,814	..	..	..	..	5,835*	..
Fox, red.....	3,858	2,950	1,830	400	956	578	841
Marten.....	..	2,379	..	..	178	1,554	364
Mink.....	8,814	8,544	4,413	7,698	11,413	9,621	8,972
Muskrat.....	195,290	117,839	70,039	75,739	82,057	76,429	107,461
Otter.....	..	..	..	23	43	58	64
Raccoon.....	..	..	329	679	1,284	839	647
Total	228,528	149,429	87,772	96,394	112,399	105,497	126,821

1/ Beaver 7,175 in 1943. Figures not available for other fur bearers.

The State law does not require trappers to report on furs taken, except the of beavers. These figures were obtained from shipping permits, which are required when furs are shipped out of the State.

\* Number of coyotes on which Bounty was claimed from Livestock Commission.

## NEBRASKA

Species	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48
Badger.....	2,800	1,516	1,112	1,288	964
Beaver.....	2,768	3,000	5,804	5,730	6,965
Bobcat.....	100	133	48	14	98
Coyote.....	16,360	13,897	16,390	16,560	13,750
Mink.....	11,820	9,232	13,110	13,626	13,785
Muskrat.....	262,100	317,110	291,195	190,400*	238,824
Opossum.....	19,180	12,135	12,102	16,864	7,210
Raccoon.....	8,680	8,975	10,210	16,415	18,528
Red Fox.....	500	267	1,239	278	49
Skunk:					
Striped.....	82,080	40,678	30,620	26,600	6,875
Spotted.....	35,260	20,066	12,858	7,690	3,392
Weasel.....	4,200	1,371	1,036	1,094	686
Total	445,848	428,382	395,724	296,158	311,126

Note: Each two-year heading indicates a winter trapping season of 3-4 months. Date for the 1946-47 season computed from 1076 report cards returned by 23.2% of those buying permits.

## NEVADA

Nevada has no available information on the number of fur animals taken annually

# NEW HAMPSHIRE

Species	1942 <sup>1/</sup>	1943 <sup>1/</sup>	1944	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48
Bear <sup>3/</sup> .....	78	49	3	166	149	163
Beaver.....	..	387	307	529	1,139	28
Bobcat.....	207	142	110	118	105	297
Canada lynx.....	..	..	1	2	..	1
Fisher.....	..	2	1	2	2	3
Fox, all species....	3,408	4,668	4,006 <sup>2/</sup>	4,649	2,994	1,084
Mink.....	1,335	1,188	1,128	1,652	1,523	1,378
Muskrat.....	9,104	9,004	9,404	15,484	12,382	13,596
Raccoon.....	1,129	1,903	947	1,458	1,704	1,509
Otter.....	40	28	45	40	52	61
Skunk, common lge....	1,423	1,126	1,118	768	623	231
Weasel.....	162	67	148	208	164	58
Deer.....						4,377
Rabbits.....						16
Unidentified Fur.....						13
Total	16,886	19,064	17,818	24,915	20,837	22,815

1/ Bear kill is not complete as hunters are not required to report on the number taken. There is a \$5.00 bounty, and it is assumed that about 40% of the kill is reported.

2/ Silver fox, 6; red fox, 4,000.

3/ During the 1946-47 season 149 bears were taken.

# NEW JERSEY

Species	1940 <sup>1/</sup>	1941 <sup>1/</sup>	1942 <sup>1/</sup>	1944 <sup>1/</sup>	1945 <sup>1/</sup>	1946 <sup>1/</sup>
Fox:						
Red and gray.....	1,857	1,150	1,082	1,754	2,248	2,686
Mink.....	825	527	441	245	317	420
Muskrat.....	194,828	155,590	218,974	176,112	157,604	204,081
Otter.....	20	2	..	17	15	4
Skunk, common lge..	12,883	7,454	7,077	2,925	4,012	..
Squirrel.....	181,476	140,154	121,490	285,596	205,842	152,624
Weasel.....	4,398	3,023	3,937	1,261	2,484	5,236
Total	396,087	307,880	352,001	467,910	372,522	365,051

1/ Calendar year.

## NEW MEXICO

Species	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946-47	1947-48
Badger.....	1,000	946	700	660	600	500
Beaver.....	803	847	1,430	991	733	672
Bobcat.....	7,292	3,989	4,000	5,276	4,500	4,000
Coyote.....	30,178	28,036	27,000	20,000	15,850	18,205
Fox:						
Gray.....	3,300	3,598	6,000	5,225	4,260	3,625
Swift.....	400	455	460	475	425	305
Mink.....	30	28	35	52	55	7
Mt. lion.....	90	80	75	82	90	75
Muskrat.....	20,000	18,702	20,500	20,890	18,000	106
Opossum.....	10	22	10	..	..	2
Raccoon.....	400	460	500	500	518	400
Ringtail cat.....	1,000	752	1,500	1,500	1,250	1,000
Skunk:						
Common large.....	10,000	7,820	8,000	9,230	10,000	8,000
Spotted.....	200	193	200	350	360	255
Weasel.....	15	13	15	55	45	52
Miscellaneous.....	100	110	25	25	42	35
Total	74,818	66,051	69,450	65,311	56,728	37,239

## NEW YORK

Species	1939	1940	1941	1942	1944	1945
Bear.....	77	81	84	71	83	77
Beaver.....	(1/)	(1/)	3,055	4,075	3,138	3,275
Bobcat.....	163	220	210	72	257	158
Fox:						
Red.....	25,852	27,865	23,515	16,903	27,056	35,078
Gray.....	6,975	8,996	6,012	6,055	5,542	7,629
Mink.....	9,712	10,492	10,314	8,713	8,483	10,612
Muskrat.....	264,276	335,657	369,188	279,934	195,527	184,811
Opossum.....	6,116	4,750	3,916	3,327	3,190	2,161
Raccoon.....	27,459	27,751	22,647	7,389	16,445	20,558
Skunk:						
Common large.....	41,170	46,681	43,547	28,682	14,157	12,037
Squirrel.....	261,715	315,847	200,329	217,478	141,283	153,973
Total	643,515	778,340	682,817	572,699	415,161	430,369

1/ Closed season.

In 1943, 2,152 beavers were taken; 1945, 3,275 beavers; 1946, 5,567 beavers; 1947, closed season on beavers; and 1948, 1,038 beavers.

New York advises that figures on the annual fur catch for the above years should perhaps be increased 50 per cent because of the large number of licensees who did not report.



# NORTH CAROLINA

Species	1941	1942	1944	1945	1946-47	1947-48
Bobcat.....	250	153	169	100	120	35
Fox:						
Gray.....	19,000	12,591	24,514	20,000	25,600	3,232
Red.....	500	336	169	300	330	104
Mink.....	32,000	10,323	40,053	35,000	32,450	10,728
Muskrat.....	147,000	92,772	110,864	135,000	137,000	92,824
Opossum.....	99,000	76,173	41,129	50,000	40,650	13,597
Raccoon.....	110,000	73,506	33,800	20,000	35,000	24,335
Skunk:						
Common large.....	12,000 <sup>1/</sup>	8,388	7,267	9,000	7,680	834
Weasel.....	8,000	3,117	1,701	1,000	1,200	725
Otter*						737
Total	427,750	277,359	259,666	270,400	280,030	147,151

<sup>1/</sup> This figure also includes spotted skunks.  
 North Carolina does not require trappers to make an annual report on furs taken. These figures were obtained from fur dealers and should be considered only as estimates of the total fur catch.

\* No figures available for 1946-47 period when season was opened on otter.

# NORTH DAKOTA

Species	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48
Badger.....	2,275	1,032	1,682	1,562	286
Beaver.....	1,571	1,588	2,029	1,885	1,206
Bobcat (lynx).....	127	42	96	52	19
Coyote.....	4,214	4,108	6,301	2,768	2,213
Fox, all species....	20,382	7,657	16,084	8,351	8,750
Jackrabbit.....	171,420	48,956	69,322	75,310	80,140
Mink.....	7,638	7,626	13,278	14,698	5,331
Muskrat.....	178,518	215,797	324,809	161,811	50,067
Raccoon.....	1,717	989	1,541	2,051	1,340
Skunk.....	110,135	60,222	70,613	54,829	7,609
Weasel.....	28,882	9,575	5,722	6,982	2,003
Total	526,879	362,592	511,484	330,299	158,964



## OHIO

Species	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48
Fox:					
Red.....	9,689	17,434	18,716	14,592	7,387
Gray.....	7,929	11,704	7,141	5,009	2,660
Mink.....	11,195	17,822	13,570	14,059	9,913
Muskrat.....	700,753	585,468	735,377	693,166	480,749
Opossum.....	119,485	91,080	58,419	73,014	35,504
Raccoon.....	31,835	56,917	93,600	92,615	63,172
Skunk.....	43,965	43,408	23,453	14,914	..*
Weasel.....	6,861	8,193	6,810	11,442	4,138
Total	931,712	832,026	957,086	923,311	603,523

Ohio does not require trappers to report on furs taken. These figures were obtained from reports of licensed Ohio fur dealers. They do not include the furs shipped outside of Ohio which were not handled by licensed Ohio dealers.

\* There was no open season on skunks in Ohio during 1947-48.

## OKLAHOMA

Species	1942-43	1943-44	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48
Badger.....	108	509	129	83	49
Bobcat.....	76	142	70	66	27
Coyote.....	1,806	2,340	1,911	538	83
Fox, gray.....	898	1,475	849	977	321
Mink.....	1,846	3,775	6,136	9,772	6,035
Muskrat.....	7,810	9,279	13,853	16,200	10,354
Opossum.....	222,903	182,310	185,001	178,665	72,224
Raccoon.....	3,350	4,843	6,791	9,131	5,143
Skunk:					
Common large.....	54,148	87,013	52,333	48,183	16,450
Spotted.....	4,958	6,234	4,571	5,978	1,655
Weasel.....	..	..	..	8	3
Wolf.....	243	288	85	69	127
Miscellaneous:					
Red fox.....	..	86	108	33	79
Total	298,146	278,297	271,837	268,803	112,550

Species	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48
Badger.....	137	133	46	65	24
Bear.....	15	13	42	37	21
Bobcat.....	1,022	810	1,113	867	710
Coyote.....	4,287	2,757	1,983	1,903	1,163
Fox.....	262	246	495	442	352
Marten.....	(1/)	(1/)	983	1,119	(1/)
Mink.....	5,306	5,166	6,683	5,371	5,215
Mountain lion.....	8	15	36	23	23
Muskrat.....	48,951	43,748	65,367	75,899	66,516
Nutria.....	33	..	32	22	5
Opossum.....	2	11	3	31	61
Otter.....	120	100	216	186	196
Raccoon.....	2,859	2,563	4,612	3,723	2,592
Skunk:					
Common large.....	1,607	1,531	1,863	1,110	438
Spotted.....	375	447	838	1,146	452
Weasel.....	159	197	398	426	1,043
Total	65,143	57,737	84,732	92,370	78,811

1/ No open season

## PENNSYLVANIA

Species	1942-43	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47
Beaver.....	2,414	1,281	1,663	2,694	1,765
Bobcat.....	3	30	13	25	17
Fox:					
Red.....	6,604	11,850	9,460	28,480	26,679
Gray.....	8,032	10,354	10,230	19,144	20,985
Mink.....	6,326	10,785	7,415	11,298	12,683
Muskrat.....	486,368	610,968	306,437	610,834	531,969
Opossum.....	65,445	110,850	49,572	40,992	52,718
Otter.....	..	21	33	23	14
Raccoon.....	30,140	46,692	38,122	46,951	49,407
Skunk, common large..	148,075	163,584	103,207	104,088	94,509
Weasel.....	26,274	25,527	5,487	12,230	22,323
Total	779,681	991,942	531,639	874,759	813,069

Pennsylvania requires both trappers and fur dealers to report on the annual take and handling of furs.

## RHODE ISLAND

Rhode Island does not require trappers and fur dealers to submit annual reports on furs, and therefore is not able to furnish figures.

## SOUTH CAROLINA

Species	1942	1943	1945	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48
Fox:						
Red.....	65	48	31	30	47	28
Gray.....	2,809	3,021	1,908	1,203	1,310	1,102
Mink.....	7,442	7,896	6,264	4,210	5,428	6,512
Muskrat.....	8,630	9,862	3,561	1,588	4,632	1,260
Opossum.....	16,443	19,766	11,575	7,370	8,475	6,159
Otter.....	97	108	62	54	74	43
Raccoon.....	20,425	21,988	18,211	15,713	15,363	9,434
Skunk:						
Common lge.....	228	287	150	139	143	127
Total	56,139	62,976	41,762	30,307	35,472	24,665

The State law does not require trappers to make an annual report on furs taken. These figures were obtained from permits for shipment of furs out of the State.

## SOUTH DAKOTA

South Dakota does not require trappers to make reports on furs taken. It is estimated, however, that 1,000 beavers were trapped in each of the fiscal years 1937, 1938, and 1939, and 2,500 in 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, and the 1947-48 season.

## TENNESSEE

Species	1942-43 <sup>1/</sup>	1943-44 <sup>1/</sup>	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48
Fox:						
Red.....	899	474	..	1,590	833	2,093
Gray.....	1,377	927	6,484	3,655	2,289	2,463
Mink.....	373	524	1,566	2,379	2,325	5,669
Muskrat.....	5,375	5,822	18,581	23,650	21,653	37,433
Opossum.....	32,203	22,983	60,062	65,508	35,624	31,452
Raccoon.....	1,610	1,194	5,093	5,494	6,441	6,717
Skunk.....	15,695	12,645	34,722	33,003	13,274	7,860
Weasel.....	144	113	1,839	361	154	141
Total	57,676	44,682	128,297	135,640	82,593	93,828

<sup>1/</sup> Tennessee does not feel that the returns for these years are complete even though the wholesale fur-dealers report sharp decline in fur takes since the 1942 season.



Species	1941 <sup>1/</sup>	1944	1945	1946 <sup>1/</sup>	1947 <sup>1/</sup>	1948
Badger.....	1,019	266	167	846	368	94
Beaver.....	127	85	77	137	135	60
Fox:						17,408
Red.....	..	..	..	..	..	..
Gray.....	44,692	23,378	7,940	56,244	21,829	..
Kit or swift....	..	..	6	9	2	..
Mink.....	17,317	2,848	1,172	35,592	32,624	41,820
Mountain lion.....	..	..	..	..	..	..
Muskrat.....	107,908	59,432	30,400	417,339	583,236	148,830
Opossum.....	393,146	52,312	22,960	330,066	210,679	123,711
Raccoon.....	80,218	26,586	9,078	164,327	108,298	94,994
Ringtail cat.....	83,707	55,114	13,823	122,829	38,145	58,021
Skunk:						21,739
Common lge.....	140,943	26,668	8,510	121,573	57,657	..
Spotted	9,963	2,179	1,272	13,785	5,055	..
Texas lynx.....	3,607	1,293	136	1,508	152	90
Weasel.....	44	..	21	1	..	..
Wolf.....	6,626	1,628	453	42	39	11
Miscellaneous	..	111	274	409	17	87
Total	889,317	192,468	96,291	1,264,707	1,058,236	506,919

<sup>1/</sup> The 1941 figures represent about 50% of the dealers; about 80% in 1946. Texas records are not representative due to incomplete fur dealers returns (only 10% reporting some years). Reports are not required of trappers, and the law requiring fur dealers to report has not proven practicable of enforcement, under Texas conditions. Figures shown are for the dealers reporting, no attempt being made to estimate numbers for the dealers not reporting.

## UTAH

Species	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
Beaver.....	1,200	1,297	1,216	2,685	2,850	2,232	2,189

Utah does not require trappers to make reports of furs taken, except those of beavers, for which there is no open season. Beavers are taken only when they are doing damage.



VERMONT

Species	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1946-47*
Fox, Red.....	9,513	8,502	14,057	8,748	10,480	7,090
Mink.....	4,517	2,759	2,861	3,730	2,862	2,836
Muskrat.....	48,897	42,056	58,610	46,931	41,955	37,951
Raccoon.....	6,976	4,580	8,001	4,369	5,970	4,582
Skunk, common lge....	20,767	12,720	10,560	5,347	5,004	4,134
Weasel.....	1,049	311	613	395	611	313
Total	91,719	70,928	94,702	69,520	66,882	56,906

Vermont does not require trappers to make reports on furs taken. Fur dealers, however, must report on the furs purchased.

\* 1946-47 season.

VIRGINIA

Species	1942	1943	1944	1945	1947-1948
Bear.....	1	2	1	30 <u>1/</u>	6
Bobcat.....	123	134	189	157	100
Fox:					
Red.....	1,079	1,083	2,581	1,789	1,482
Gray.....	8,795	8,126	18,701	9,146	4,614
Silver & cross.....	12	94	143	20	..
Mink.....	3,721	2,673	5,846	4,203	5,038
Muskrat.....	100,416	124,586	242,739	133,820	167,718
Opossum.....	72,030	55,153	130,501	58,745	26,076
Otter.....	..	210	1,279	555	217
Raccoon.....	10,517	10,215	23,374	14,326	14,322
Skunk, common lge....	65,279	55,936	99,705	56,881	36,357
Squirrel.....	1,488	179	73	13	21
Weasel.....	2,114	1,691	3,224	1,828	1,249
Miscellaneous.....	117	370	433	245	404
Total	265,692	260,452	529,089	281,758	257,604

1/ Includes only the bear hides reported as purchased by fur dealers. The bear kill will average approximately 50 or better which do not clear through commercial fur channels.

Virginia does not require trappers to make reports on furs taken, but fur buyers must report on furs purchased.

## WASHINGTON

Species	1943-44	1944-45	1946	1947	1948
Badger.....	11	163	65	88	5
Bobcat.....	..	1,305	1,151	1,365	..
Coyote.....	..	9,144	9,147	12,435	366
Fox, red.....	176	165	195	136	45
Marten.....	460 <u>1/</u>	1,233	1,443	1,714	752
Mink.....	8,000	2,757	10,688	7,433	8,895
Mountain lion.....	..	217	..	..	..
Muskrat.....	82,078	51,786	51,533	54,975	66,087
Otter.....	393	401	512	655	629
Raccoon.....	4,087	4,043	5,394	4,102	3,827
Skunk:					
Common large.....	1,350	2,133	3,285	1,871	)
Spotted.....	282	..	2,699	1,564	) 394
Weasel.....	236	902	1,514	1,301	1,071
Nutria.....	76	87	84	26	111
Opossum.....	5	..	..	..	114
Total	97,154	79,336	87,740	87,665	82,296

1/ Special season

## WEST VIRGINIA

Species	1943	1944 <sup>1/</sup>	1945	1946	1948
Bobcat.....	71	53	69	88	50
Fox:					
Red.....	3,780	2,030	2,748	4,138	2,749
Gray.....	8,363	5,128	5,703	7,058	1,737
Mink.....	1,703	1,293	1,794	2,941	1,248
Muskrat.....	57,503	24,831	31,822	56,137	23,077
Opossum.....	131,125	33,189	32,550	52,724	16,527
Raccoon.....	7,535	3,774	4,766	10,817	5,362
Skunk, common large...	158,336	37,077	30,915	50,824	13,782
Weasel.....	2,664	1,537	1,234	1,806	977
Miscellaneous.....	156	76	29	246	..
Total	371,236	108,788	111,630	186,779	65,509

1/ A change instituted in 1944 required fur dealers to report furs bought by calendar year rather than fiscal year as licenses are so issued.

WISCONSIN

Species	1942-43	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47
Badger.....	679	1,227	1,604	1,684	908
Beaver**.....	4,564	7,720	(1/)	15,280	..
Bear**.....	647	684	489	598	790
Bobcat & lynx.....	191	765	384	1,048	577
Coyote & wolf.....	885	1,125	1,936	4,134	3,317
Fox, red & gray <u>2/</u> ..	10,622	21,498	36,487	23,428	25,793
Mink.....	26,155	43,898	43,970	44,732	49,762
Muskrat.....	658,255	951,895	441,011	41,544*	934,502
Opossum.....	7,372	7,598	7,859	6,945	4,689
Otter.....	117	135	171	291	484
Raccoon <u>3/</u> **.....	17,965	26,192	20,641	15,740	23,946
Skunk.....	36,506	48,768	58,268	52,542	63,346
Squirrel**.....	762,100	582,372	695,695	668,269	1,014,020
Weasel.....	6,985	21,154	10,669	38,836	33,806
Total	1,533,043	1,721,831	1,319,184	915,071	2,155,940

1/ No open season.

2/ Bountied since March 1945.

3/ Based on tag sales after and including 1944-45 season.

\* General closed season. Harvest taken only on licensed muskrat farms and permit areas.

\*\* Beaver 5,582; Bear 721; Raccoon 16,956; Squirrel 676,561, taken during 1947-48 season.

WYOMING

Species	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Beaver.....	11,142	7,768	7,164	7,145	8,510	10,761	8,338

